(a) whether the Government have received proposals/ suggestions for abrogating Article 370 and the utility of the Article in the present circumstances; and

(b) if so, the decision of the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) Views have been expressed from time to time, in some quarters that Article 370 should be rogated.

(b) The Government do not propose to amend or abrogate Article 370 of the Constitution.

[English]

Fake Citizenship Certificate

4913. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the issuance of the fake citizenship certificates to the Bangladeshi nationals with MBBS degrees by certain border districts officials to enable them to secure jobs in the country;

(b) if so, whether any inquiry has been conducted by the Government to identify the officials involved in the issuance of fake citizenship certificates to the Bangladeshi nationals;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Commercialization of Agriculture

4914. SHRI NITISH KUMAR:
DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any new schemes have been introduced by the Government to encourage the cultivation of more economical crops so that agriculture is commercialized in the country; and

(b) if so, the details of these schemes and the names of the agricultural products whose cultivation is to be encouraged?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING)(SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) and (b) There is no new scheme to "commercialise agriculture" in the country. However some schemes for the promotion of horticultural crops, other than foodgrains and cash crops, have been introduced during the Eighth Five Year Plan. A Statement in this regard is attached.

STATEMENT

New Schemes for Promotion of More Economical Crops during VIII Plan

The details of the new schemes started during the VIII Five year Plan for promotion of horticultural crops are as under:

	Names of schemes	Activities taken up under the scheme	VIII Plan outlay (Rs. in crore)
	1	2	3
(1)	Commercial Flouriculture	Setting up of nodal centres for introduction of new varieties, their multiplication and supply of planting material, training centres for post-harvest handling of cut flowers and area expansion.	10.00
(2)	Promoting cultivation of root and tuber crops	Introduction of improved technology and setting up of tissue culture units	2.50
(3)	Mushroom cultivation	Setting up of spawn production units, pasturized compost units and training	10.00

1		2	3
(4)	Development of medicinal and Aromatic plants	Development of selected varieties through production of seed/ planting material of improved varieties, setting up of herbal gardens and assistance for distillation units.	5.00
(5)	Development of betelvine	Construction of conservatory/trellies, developing water sources for irrigation, supply of plant protection equipment and establishment of demonstration plots.	2.00
(6)	Development of beekeeping for improving crop productivity	Aimed at improving productivity of crops through polliwation by the honey bees, assistance given to the beekeepers for training, development of infrastructure and marketing facilities; R&D.	18.87

[English]

Riot Incidents at Muzzafarnagar

4915. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the CBI has noticed the tempering of police records relating to Uttarakhand riot incidents at Muzaffarnagar;

(b) if so, whether the Government have constituted any inquiry in the matter;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof along with the action taken/to be taken by the Government thereon; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) A regular criminal case was registered in connection with this matter and a chargesheet under sections 120-B and 218 IPC has been filed against the concerned police officers in the Court of the Special Magistrate for CBI cases, Dehradun. The trial proceedings are presently stayed under the orders of the High Court of Allahabad on a petition moved by the accused for transferring the case to some other place.

Fertilizers Selling Agencies

4916. SHRI VISHVESHWAR BHAGAT: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of agencies selling chemicals and fertilizers in Madhya Pradesh till 31st March, 1996;

(b) the number of agencies working under the cooperative societies; and

(c) the details of the programme launched by the Government for making the distribution of chemicals and fertilizers more effective in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) to (c) The information asked for is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Upgradation of Railway Services

4917. DR. Y.S. RAJASEKHARA REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether representations have been received regarding the introduction of new trains between Vijayawada and Guntakal and Madras and Bombay, upgradation of Muddanur and Kondapuram stations, stoppages of Balaji Express at Muddanur and Kondapuram and Mysore-Kondapuram passenger train at Yenoguntala, increase in frequency of Balaji Express, extension of Mysore-Kondapuram train upto Gooty, doubling of line between Guntakal and Renigunta; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The demands for additional services, increase in frequency, extension of trains beyond its destinations and stoppages have been examined but not found feasible due to operational and resource constraints. As regards upgradation of Muddanuru and Kondapuram stations, these stations are already provided with facilities commensurate with the volume of traffic handled. Augmentation of the passenger amenities will be considered whenever so warranted by increase in the volume of traffic, subject to the availability of funds and other relative priorities. Regarding doubling of Guntakal-Renigunta section, a survey for the doubling of Gooty-Renigunta section has been taken up. Further action will be taken on receipt of the report.